



Milwaukee County

Board Chairman Lee Holloway

Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., 7th District

County Executive Scott Walker

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HISTORIC SISTER CITIES AGREEMENT SIGNING WITH EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF BUFFALO CITY, SOUTH AFRICA

Ceremonial signing of agreement in Milwaukee County Courthouse

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway, Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., and County Executive Scott Walker will welcome Buffalo City, South Africa, Executive Mayor Ntombentle Peter during a ceremonial signing of Milwaukee County's Sister Cities agreement with Buffalo City. The Sister Cities relationship promotes friendship and greater understanding between the two communities.

The agreement signing is scheduled for Monday, January 28th at 12 noon in the Milwaukee County Courthouse Rotunda.

The agreement, authored by Supervisor Mayo, further encourages joint efforts to promote a bridge between the people of both nations through mutually beneficial business, health, and culture exchanges, and supports development of a program of activities to strengthen the relationship. Mark Anderson, President/CEO of the Center for International Health and host of the Buffalo City dignitaries during their stay in Milwaukee, will also be present for the historic ceremony.

"One of the most important aspects of this Sister Cities relationship is developing an international health initiative," Supervisor Mayo said. "Our goal is to build off of our history as a founding member of the Center for International Health."

Board Chairman Lee Holloway approved the funds to move the partnership forward. "\$7,500 from County Board accounts was dedicated to make this happen," Chairman Holloway said. "I also signed a contract with the Center for International Health to bring these dignitaries to Milwaukee."

"I'm thrilled to join the County Executive in signing this landmark legislation," Supervisor Mayo added. "It truly is a win-win for the residents of Milwaukee County and Buffalo City in South Africa."

Milwaukee County is a full participating member of Sister Cities International, inaugurated in 1956 by President Dwight Eisenhower. The membership is entirely funded within the County Board's budget. In 1997, the County established a Sister Cities agreement with King Williams Town. But it was necessary to re-establish the agreement after King Williams Town merged with two other townships, East London and Bisho, and was renamed Buffalo City. Ntombentle Peter was elected as the City's first female Executive Mayor in 2006.